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FLOOR DEBATE

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it now for the state, and they get a small stipend from the Department of Corrections which is reimbursed from...from the agency they are working for, probably reimbursed more than what the inmate is getting paid, but I can't tell you exactly what the pay is but it is not more than about a \$1.50 an hour. Now work release, however, is a program that I have worked...I am trying to get them to actually provide more beds in, and work release is where they go out into the community, those who have a classification of community classification where they go out in the community and they work at a regular job. And they get prevailing wage, whatever that wage is in that regular job, and those people who are working them kind of jobs pay the state back some money for board and room, and they pay taxes, just like any one of us who would work our regular jobs, and they save some. The work detail people, they take a little bit of their money for spousal support, you know court ordered money, fines, restitution, child support mostly, but, again, they are making peanuts compared to the ones that are making prevailing wage in the work release programs. They are both allowed to go out into the community, and sometimes...and the work release people are going out unsupervised and some of the work detail people are going out unsupervised. We need more jobs that if they do nothing else but to teach a work ethic, I think this job is worth that. I think we need to move forward in getting more work release beds because then you learn more about how to handle your money and how to be responsible for more of your bills also. But at this point, I am supporting this bill for no other reason that it will give more people opportunities to at least have a job and learn a work ethic. The only concern I have is I don't know what...if they are going to build more work release centers and turn more of the institutions into beds because the two work release centers that now have the work details and work release people in them are full. So I would...my concern is that we are not going to have facilities that do this unless they turn more of the Hastings facility into one. But I think it is good at this point and I'm going to support it. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Mr. Clerk, an amendment on the desk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to